

**REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF
THE COMMITTEE *FOR* HOME AFFAIRS
TO QUESTIONS ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE
RULES OF PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY C LE TISSIER**

QUESTION 1

In respect of each month during the period October 2020 to March 2024 how many flights paid for by the States did each political member of the Home Affairs Committee take and to which destinations and what was the class of travel for each trip & member?

ANSWER

Home Affairs Political Members had three off Island trips during this period as follows:

06.04.2022 Deputy Prow attended a meeting at the National Cyber Security Centre, this was a day drip supported by one officer. The total cost of two return flights to London Gatwick cost £225.98 each, and two train tickets were £41.30 each. No expenses were claimed.

12.07.2022 Deputy Aldwell joined a visit to the Jersey Sexual Assault Referral Centre and Refuge. This was an operational visit funded through the Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Strategy to allow local practitioners, including third sector partners, to visit facilities and learn from Jersey's experiences in establishing a SARC. The invitation was extended to Deputy Aldwell as the Committee's Domestic Abuse lead.

The cost of day return flights for Deputy Aldwell were £136.98. In addition, the Strategy covered the cost of 4 operational attendees, with the cost of flights totalling £547.92. Taxis for the party totalled £43.46, additional expenses for the day amounted to £84.

26.10.2022 Deputy Prow attended a meeting at the Home Office in London supported by one officer. Deputy Prow was already in the UK as such the cost of flights were not met by the States, an overnight stay at the Premier Inn, London Victoria was paid to accommodate the meeting at a cost of £234.75. Officer flights for the day trip cost £215.98. Train tickets cost £52.40. Expenses for the trip amounted to £24.10, Deputy Prow did not claim any additional expenses.

QUESTION 2

In relation to question 1, what were the departure and return dates in respect of each member's trip from Guernsey, identifying which if any members extended their stay beyond States business for private/personal reasons?

ANSWER

No Members extended their stay.

QUESTION 3

What were the dates of the event/meeting?

ANSWER

Please see the response to question 1.

QUESTION 4

The same questions 1, 2 & 3 applies, how many Civil Servants and/or advisors accompanied political members on each trip to include departure/return/meeting/events dates?

ANSWER

Please see the response to question 1.

QUESTION 5

Which hotels paid for by the States did each political member of the Home Affairs Committee stay and for which nights during October 2020 – March 2024.

ANSWER

Please see the response to question 1.

QUESTION 6

What was the total cost of air fares, hotels and any other expenditure, including any standard day allowances in relation to the out of the island trips representing the States for each trip taken during the period October 2020 – March 2024 by each political member.

ANSWER

The total cost to allow Deputy Prow to attended the meeting 06.04.2022 was £267.28.

The total cost to allow Deputy Aldwell to join the visit on 12.07.2022 was £136.98.

The total cost to allow Deputy Prow to attended the meeting 26.10.2022 was £255.45.

QUESTION 7

What 'day allowances and other expenditure did each member receive for each trip during the period October 2020-March 2024?

ANSWER

Total expenses are detailed in the response to question 1.

QUESTION 8

The same questions 5, 6 & 7 above applies to Civil Servants and/or advisors accompanying political members on each trip October 2020-March 2024

ANSWER

The total cost to allow an officer to support the meeting Deputy Prow attended on 06.04.2022 was £267.28.

The total cost of operational professionals and third sector partners visiting the Jersey SARC facilities ahead of the launch of the local SARC was £675.38. Deputy Aldwell joined this visit as political lead.

The total cost of to allow an officer to support the meeting Deputy Prow attended on 26.10.2022 was £271.78.

QUESTION 9

In relation to previous Rule 6 (now numbered 11) questions on each members travel and expenditure during 2011 Deputy Trott as Chief Minister wrote *'in the spirit of moving towards more open and transparent Government, it is intended that information of this type will be provided as a matter of course in the next administration'*. As this didn't happen questions were repeated in January 2015 addressed to Deputy Le Tocq as Chief Minister, when replying he stated 'The Policy Council has no objection to the general publication of Deputies travel expenditure when representing the island outside the Bailiwick on a regular basis and that an appropriate frequency would be annual publication. As Deputy Trott & Deputy Le Tocq both as Chief Ministers at various times sought publishing States members travel details as above, and neither have pursued this happening, will the President of the Home Affairs Committee give assurances in the interest of transparency and accountability an annual detailed report covering the above will be published in the public domain, highlighting each States members travel details, costs and the reason for the trip?

ANSWER

The Committee for Home Affairs would not object to publishing details of its Members' travel costs as part of a wider States publication. However, considering the very limited

number of off-Island visits attended, it would question the value of a standalone report published by the Committee.

QUESTION 10

Would you agree that changes need to be made and that in the interest of transparency and accountability States members trips away on States business should be circulated to all Deputies within a reasonable time after the trip?

ANSWER

It is the general view of the Committee *for* Home Affairs that off Island travel is key to ensure that the Bailiwick is appropriately represented in various national and international forums. UK government departments often initiate meetings requesting attendance from the Crown Dependencies. Further, there is much that we can learn from building relationships in neighbouring jurisdictions. As individual Deputies and collectively the States must be accountable and should abide by any States travel directive.